

Capsule Summary
SM-619
Head of the Bay Farm
Clements Vicinity
Private

1929

For much of the early-twentieth century, the Colonial Revival represented a popular architectural style in St. Mary's County. Symmetry, formal closed floor plans, classically inspired mantles, and cupboards all represented components that replicated "colonial" architectural forms. Head of the Bay Farm, situated near Clements, Maryland, modestly utilizes several of these details. Constructed during the uncertainty of the Great Depression in 1929, the main dwelling at Head of the Bay Farm is a two-story, frame dwelling with a variety of modern Colonial Revival decorative elements. The most prominent elements include its seven bay symmetrical facade, three-part Palladian plan, as well as an interior corner cupboard and mantle distinguished by flowerettes and a dentilated cornice.

Overlooking ~~St.~~ Clements Creek, the house was constructed on the partially visible brick and stone footings of a previous mid-nineteenth century dwelling. This was replaced by members of the Edmonds family who constructed the current two story dwelling. For much of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century, the farm was owned by related members of the Edmonds and Garner families. Situated at the head of St. Clements Bay, the house was not only at the center of a large farm, but also a mill operated in the late-nineteenth century by Thomas W. Morgan. The location of the mill near the Clements crossroads made it an ideal place to conduct business. Indeed, the productivity of the mill received acclaim in the August 19, 1886 issue of the St. Mary's Beacon. One of its readers reported an unprecedented yield of flour from dry wheat. He noted that "I sent one hundred and forty pounds of dry wheat to the Head of the Bay Mill and received therefrom thirty five pounds of flour, fifteen pounds of seconds and middlings, and a scant half bushel of bran." While the actual site of the mill has yet to be located, remnants of the mill race can still be seen on the northern edges of the property and the mill stones have been recovered by the Ledford family, the current owners of the farm.

SM-619, Head of the Bay Farm
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme:

Architecture
Economic

Resource Type

Category:

Building

Historic Environment:

Rural

Historic Function and Use:

Residence

Known Design Source:

None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-619

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Head of the Bay Farm (pref.), The Gough Farm

and/or common

2. Location

0.2 of a mile southeast of the intersection of Route 234 and Route 242, on Maryland Rt. 234.

street & number ☐ not for publication

city, town Clements ☒ vicinity of congressional district 3

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM-24, G-22, P-16

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jean G. and Bruce W. Ledford

street & number 39340 Ledford Drive telephone no.: 301-769-2291

city, town Clements state and zip code Maryland 20624

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-619

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Head of the Bay Farm, situated on a gently sloping ridge overlooking St. Clements Creek, is located in Clements, Maryland. The dwelling is approached via a 0.1 mile dirt road that extends north of Maryland Route 234 and approximately 0.2 miles east of the intersection of Colton's Point Road (Rt. 242) and Route 234. Cultivated fields and woodlands characterize the immediate environment around the house, as commercial development visually and audibly shields the property from the traffic of Route 234. The house, itself, is oriented on an east/west axis and is immediately surrounded by a number of large trees including several sycamores and a knotted willow. The willow as well as a depression in the soil marks the location of the original approach which ran west-to-east. The property also contains several non-contributing structures that includes two tenant houses, two tobacco barns, a tool shed, and garage.

Head of the Bay Farm, constructed in 1929, is a two story, three-part, seven-bay, center passage, single pile dwelling with Colonial Revival decorative elements. Erected on the ruined brick and stone foundations of a previous dwelling, the new foundation consists of poured concrete. The wings feature foundations of poured concrete piers with cinder block infill. Portions of the original foundation can be seen in the basement indicating that its walls or chimney were constructed in a common bond. The exact perimeter of this older foundation is difficult to determine. Rough cut, circular sawn clapboard is attached to the circular sawn frame with wire nails and the gable roof is covered with raised-seam metal. Each gable end of the main block features a centrally located, exterior end brick chimney constructed in an all stretcher bond.

The primary or west elevation consists of the central block flanked on its north and south sides by a one story, two bay wing. The main block is pierced on the first and second floors by three symmetrically placed bays. The first floor consists of a centrally located, five panel door replete with sidelights and transom. The door is shaded by a modest Tuscan-order portico supported by four square columns. The door is flanked on either side by a six-over-six, double-hung sash window that originally featured wooden board shutters (almost all of the dwelling's shutters have been removed). The second floor is pierced by three, six-over-six windows. The north wing is pierced by two, six-over-six windows and the south wing is pierced by two, six-over-six windows as well as a modern one-over-one window.

The north elevation consists of the gable ends of the north wing and main block. The wing does not feature any openings, while the second floor of the main block is pierced by two, six-over-six windows--one on either side of the chimney.

The east elevation consists of the rear of the main block and two wings. A porch extends the entire length of the first floor. Like the west elevation, the main block is pierced by three bays a centrally located door flanked on either side by a six-over-six window. The wings are somewhat different. Each of wings feature a door and a six-over-six window. The second floor of the main block is pierced by three, six-over-six windows.

The south elevation consists of the gable ends of the south wing and main block. Like the north elevation the wing is not pierced by any openings, while the second floor of the main block exhibits two, six-over-six windows--one on either side of the chimney.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-619

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

For much of the early-twentieth century, the Colonial Revival represented a popular architectural style in St. Mary's County. Symmetry, formal and closed floor plans, classically inspired mantles, and cupboards all represented components that replicated "colonial" architectural forms. Head of the Bay Farm, situated near Clements, Maryland, modestly utilizes several of these forms. Constructed during the uncertainty of the Great Depression in 1929, the main dwelling at Head of the Bay Farm is a two-story, frame dwelling with a variety of modern Colonial Revival decorative elements.¹ The most prominent elements include its seven bay symmetrical facade, three-part Palladian plan, as well as an interior corner cupboard and mantle distinguished by flowerettes and a dentilated cornice.

Overlooking St. Clements Creek, the house was constructed on the partially visible brick and stone footings of a previous mid-nineteenth century dwelling. This previous house was replaced by members of the Edmonds family who constructed the present two story dwelling. For much of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century, the farm was owned by related members of the Edmonds and Garner families. Situated at the head of St. Clements Bay, the house was not only at the center of a large farm, but also a mill operated in the late-nineteenth century by Thomas W. Morgan. The location of the mill near the Clements crossroads made it an ideal place to conduct business. Indeed, the productivity of the mill was such that on August 19, 1886 one the St. Mary's Beacon readers reported an unprecedented yield of flour from dry wheat. He noted that "I sent one hundred and forty pounds of dry wheat to the Head of the Bay Mill and received therefrom thirty five pounds of flour, fifteen pounds of seconds and middlings, and a scant half bushel of bran." While the actual site of the mill has yet to be located, remnants of the mill race can still be seen on the northern edges of the property and the mill stones were once used for stepping stones that led up to the house. The Ledford family, the current owners of the farm, have recovered the mill stones.

The house at Head of the Bay Farm, therefore, is a significant example of modest Colonial Revival architecture. The farm is also significant for its association with milling and crossroads commerce.

¹ Mr. Ledford, the current owner of the property, is the source of the date. He recalled talking to several neighbors and long time residents of the Clements area who told him about when the current dwelling was built.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-619

St. Mary's Beacon, v 42: 299, p 3, c 4.
Interview with Mr. Ledford, December, 1997.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acres around houseQuadrangle name Leonardtown, MdQuadrangle scale 1: 24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Dept. of Planning & Zoningdate 4-27-98street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

SM-619, Head of the Bay Farm
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

The dwelling's interior consists of a center passage, single pile plan. The center passage features a modest stair with square balusters, a molded hand-rail, and a turned newel. The south parlor features a c. 1840, reused mantle similar in detail to those found on the first floor of Buena Vista (SM-52). The mantle features two turned columns with a banded frieze and attenuated shelf. The room also exhibits a baseboard, chair rail and cove molding. The north parlor is decorated with a colonial-revival mantle distinguished by flowerettes and a dentilated cornice. The room also features a colonial revival corner cupboard with similar decorative treatments. A baseboard, chair-rail, and cove molding complete the room's decoration. The north wing appears to have been used as a kitchen but lacks ornamentation. The south wing may have been used as a bedroom. The second floor of the main block follows the first floor plan as the center passage permits access to two second floor bed rooms.

SM-619, Head of the Bay Farm
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber MRB 470, Folio 450
Grantee: Jean G. and Bruce W. Ledford
Grantor: Brookwood Properties, Inc.
Date: May 1, 1989

Notes: Four properties are mentioned which include the "Head of the Bay Farm" or "Gough Farm" which includes 50 acres. A neighboring property called the "Mill Seat of the late Thomas Morgan" is listed as containing 2 acres.

Reference: Liber DBK 168, Folio 114
Grantee: Brookwood Properties, Inc.
Grantor: Francis W. Hill and Richard Zantzinger
Date: June 1, 1971

Reference: Liber DBK 163, Folio 369
Grantee: Francis W. Hill and Richard Zantzinger
Grantor: Francis W. Hill and Richard Zantzinger
Date: November 4, 1970

Reference: Liber CBG 126, Folio 113
Grantee: Francis W. Hill and Richard Zantzinger
Grantor: Joseph K. Copeland, et al
Date: April 11, 1966

Reference: Liber CBG 115, Folio 127
Grantee: Joseph K. Copeland and Agnes Copeland et al
Grantor: Containerization, Inc.
Date: August 24, 1964

Reference: Liber CBG 114, Folio 288
Grantee: Containerization, Inc.
Grantor: St. Mary's Investment Co., Inc.
Date: July 15, 1964

Notes: This deed notes that St. Mary's Investment Co., Inc. received the property from Stuart Garner Edmonds, et al. No date or reference is given, however, and a search through the grantor/grantee index could not locate the deed reference.

Reference: Liber JMM 8, Folio 166
Grantee: Blanche Wood Garner Edmonds
Grantor: George W. Maddox, et al
Date: November 29, 1932

Notes: Subsequent to equity case 1570 NE, the estate of Richard H. Garner is divided among his heirs. Blanche Edmonds receives the "Head of the Bay Farm" property. After Blanche dies, however, she devises the property to Stuart Garner Edmonds.

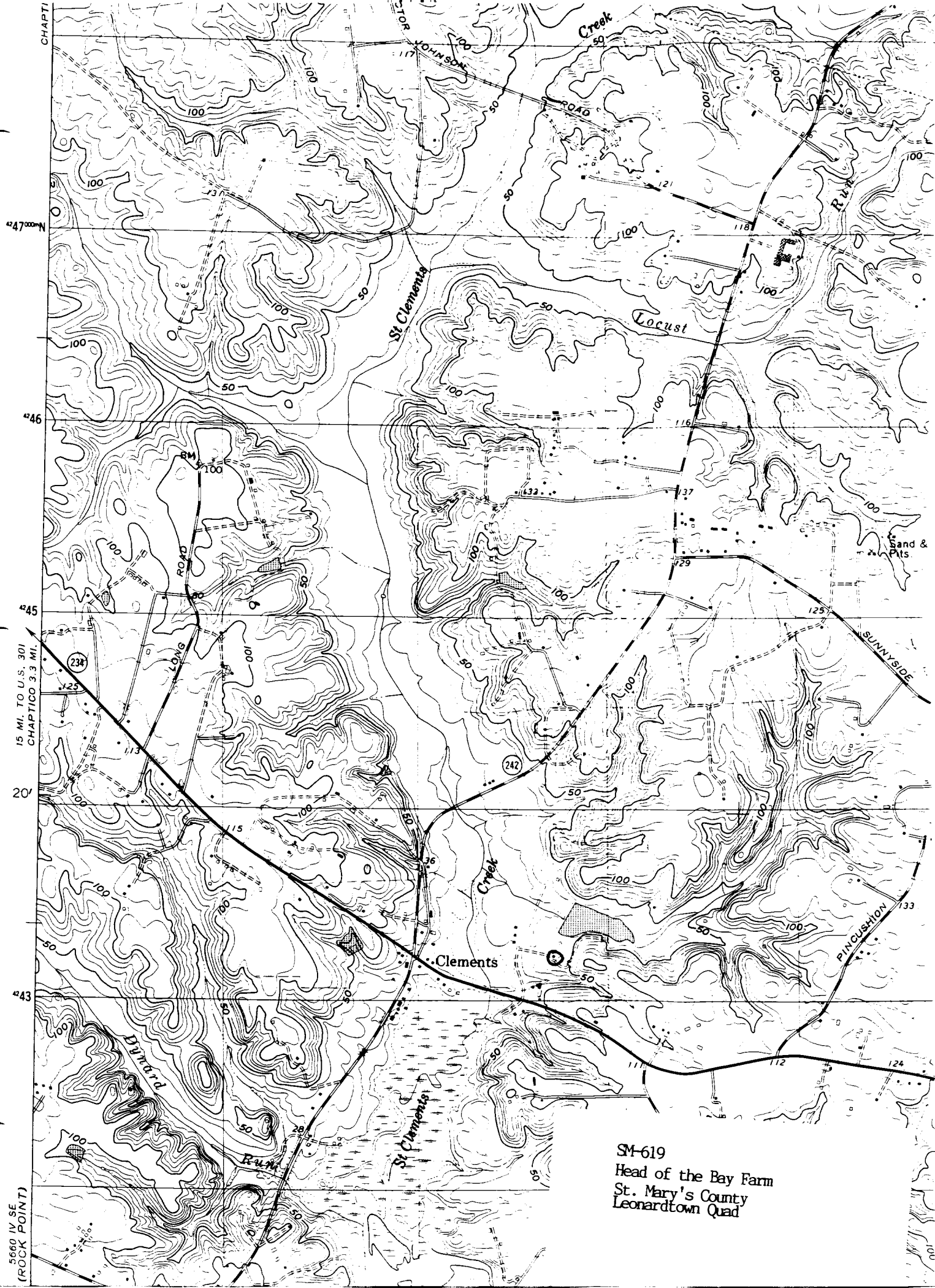
SM-619, Head of the Bay Farm
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

Reference: Liber JFF 10, Folio 101
Grantee: Richard H. Garner
Grantor: Richard H. Miles
Date: July 21, 1887

Reference: Liber JFF 6, Folio 1
Grantee: Richard H. Miles
Grantor: Samuel T. Love and Charlotte C. Love
Date: July 10, 1882

Reference: Liber JFF 1, Folio 446-447
Grantee: Charlotte C. Love
Grantor: William F. and Mary E. Leach
Date: July 6, 1872
Notes: Head of the Bay Farm is listed containing 215 acres.

Reference: Liber JFF 1, Folio 439
Grantee: Mary E. Leach
Grantor: James and Mary L. McWilliams, Thomas and Mary Emily McWilliams, Thomas W. Gough, Edward Y. and Mary Queen
Date: May 31, 1875
Notes: Margaret Gough died seized-and-possessed of Head of the Bay Farm. After her death, her heirs sold the property Mary E. Leach. The deed notes that Margaret Gough had initially received the property from James McWilliams.



SM-619
Head of the Bay Farm
St. Mary's County
Leonardtown Quad



SM-619

Head of the Egg Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Rancette

April 1/98

MD - HPO

W. elegation

1 of 4



SM-619

Head of the Bay Farm

St. Mary's County

Kick Parzetta

April /98

cmd SHPO

W+ S elevation

2 of 4



SM-619

Head of Bay Farm
St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

April/98

and SEFO

E & N elevations

2 of 4



SM-619

Head of the Bay Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Rancetta

April/98

Ad 5/1/0

Mill stones found on house

4 of 4